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McGuire: Be a drum major for justice

Perreira honored with MLK award

BY DANA FRONCZAK
STAFF WRITER

Justice has not flowed like the mighty stream Dr. Martin Luther King envisioned in the days before his assassination, METCO Director Jean McGuire told the crowd at Monday's Martin Luther King Jr. Birthday Observance.

McGuire implored a crowd of a few hundred at Arlington's annual celebration at the First Baptist Church to be "a drum major for justice in this world today; like Martin Luther King, it means you have to question... you can pick almost any task and you can be a drum major for justice."

The director of Metropolitan Council for Educational Opportunity for its entire 35-year history, McGuire was the featured speaker on a night, where a 22-year veteran of METCO was honored for his dedication to the program that brings children from metropolitan Boston to suburban communities.

METCO was founded in 1966 when seven suburban communi-

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METCO Director Steven Perreira, center, was honored with the Martin Luther King Memorial Award during Arlington's 14th annual MLK celebration Monday.

STAFF PHOTO BY MARC VASCONCELLOS

Symmes plan passes TM

BY DANA FRONCZAK
STAFF WRITER

The collective sigh of relief was almost audible in the auditorium.

As the proponents of the deal to buy the former Symmes Hospital campus relished Town Meeting's approval just a few moments earlier Wednesday, Jan. 16, Town Counsel John Maher reinforced unequivocally the pledges that have been made thus far.

"We have been wrong before and we will be wrong again, I'm sure, but I promise that we will not fail you," Maher said in an emotional thank you to the members. "I swear that to you on our sacred honor."

The two favorable votes complete the lengthy set of negotiations between the town and the Lahey/HealthSouth partnership for Arlington to buy the 18-acre campus. The Board of Trustees for Lahey approved the agreement Monday.

By a vote of 141 to 21, Town Meeting approved the Urban Renewal Plan, which gives control of the property to the Arlington Redevelopment Board and grants

it authority to borrow money to pay for the operating expenses of the land and buildings. The Urban Renewal plan required a simple majority.

Then by a vote of 144-18, the body approved the town to borrow up to \$14 million to pay for the \$7.1 million purchase price, \$6 million of estimated operating expenses over four years, and additional money to pay for consultants and other measures.

The vote seals the town's control over the property, which Arlington owned more than 100 years ago, when it was deeded to the Symmes family to build a hospital on the site for \$1.

"I think this is the best decision Arlington's made," said Board of Selectmen Chairman Charles Lyons. "If I'm wrong, and I don't think I am wrong, the worst we can do is sell it."

Lyons was touted by Maher after the vote for expressing the "vision" that Arlington needed to go and buy back the property it had rented a century earlier.

In the past decade, Arlington has suffered the closing of

■ SEE SYMMES, PAGE 13

Boston students tell of their METCO experiences

BY HELENE NEWBERG
CORRESPONDENT

Eager to show off the newly-renovated Hardy School, planners held last Friday's Martin Luther King Jr. Birthday celebration at the elementary school. The celebration included a pizza dinner with potluck dessert and a program by storyteller and folk singer Janice Allen.

The event, sponsored by the Arlington Martin Luther King Jr. Birthday Observance Committee, Arlington's METCO program, and the Robbins Library Russell Fund also celebrated the 35th year of the METCO program in Arlington.

While the event was free, because of seating limitations at the Hardy cafeteria, tickets for the dinner were limited to 125 and went quickly.

Dinner was followed by two short speeches by current METCO program participants. The students, both of whom have been in Arlington schools since early elementary years, are now at Arlington High School. Several of the some 100 students living in Boston but attending Arlington Schools attended the dinner with their families.

Jhanéa Williams, currently an AHS junior, began in Arlington

schools in first grade, left and was welcomed back from the fourth grade onward. She was thrilled to be able to return to Arlington after the absence, even with a three-hour daily commute from her home in Hyde Park.

"I love it here," said Williams. "This is me. I received a funded education, where there's a TI-83 calculator for every student in the math program, for example."

Williams cited the enriching experience of being part of a "different community." This difference, for her, exemplified the difference between a big city and a town.

"The difference is hard to quantify," she said. "Here in Arlington, I see neighbors as a community where people help one another even though they don't know one another well, in contrast to urban residents. At the high school, everyone's mother knows everyone, as opposed to the city schools where kids come from neighborhoods all over the place."

She cited another example of the town supporting the students.

"Every day, the high school serves either pizza or cheese bread from a local restaurant. That would never happen in a city school," she said.



Cyrus Brooks, 13, shows how to hambone, while his mother, Janice Allen, who performed at the METCO celebration, looks on proudly.

STAFF PHOTO BY MARC VASCONCELLOS

Williams has her sights set on MIT.

"We're both truly blessed," said her mother, Norita Landrum. "Jhanéa is tired and frustrated at times, but she's determined. The 5:30 mornings aren't easy, but Jhanéa is an honors student and recently won top chemistry student honors."

AHS senior Alina Darden also spoke of the enrichment made

possible for her by the Arlington METCO program. While she also travels 90 minutes each way to school each day from her home in Dorchester, she said she would go through with participating in the METCO program again "for the education."

"I most enjoyed being around different people in Arlington and

■ SEE METCO, PAGE 13

Police put alleged robbers behind bars

BY LES G. MASTERSON
STAFF WRITER

Arlington and Lexington police joined forces last week and arrested three in connection with recent armed robberies in the two communities. Police also said a fourth arrest is pending.

Police arrested Patrick O'Connell, 18, 129 Appleton St., and charged him on warrants for armed robbery and assault by means of a dangerous weapon; Samuel Joshua Diamant, 18, 31 Ingleside Road, Lexington, and charged him on a warrant for three counts of masked armed robbery and three counts of assaults by means of a dangerous weapon; and Sean Harding, 24, 16 Lowell St., Lexington, and charged him on a warrant for masked armed robbery and assault by means of a dangerous weapon.

A fourth suspect is in custody on unrelated charges and police expect they will seek complaints in the near future, charging him with the same crime.

"It was clear from very early on that we had armed robbers victim-

izing residents of both Arlington and Lexington and our investigators worked around the clock to bring the case to a speedy closure," said Arlington Police Services Director Fred Ryan Tuesday.

"This was a rash of crimes that were frightening to community members and particularly to businesses that may be open late at night," said Lexington Lt. Det. Mark Corr. "It was important for Arlington and Lexington police to work cooperatively to identify and arrest the four individuals responsible for this crime spree, for these serious felonies."

During the investigation, the two departments were able to piece together the events of Jan. 14, where five armed robberies were reported.

"This was a good investigation by the two police departments," said Arlington Lt. Detective Jay Moran, who, praised Inspectors John Boyle and Ilene Johnson of the Arlington Police Department and Detective Rick Corazzini and Detective Steve Garabedian of the Lexington Police Department.

According to Moran, the case

■ SEE ROBBERIES, PAGE 23



Peirce School third grade student Stephen Delsonno paints a tile, which will wind up at the new Peirce later this year. Every Peirce students is designing their own tile thanks to an Arlington Education Enrichment Fund grant.

Peirce students, community leaving permanent stamp on new school

BY LES G. MASTERSON
STAFF WRITER

Third grader Stephen Delsonno surveyed his drawing before carefully drawing a penciled outline of Old Glory's stripes. That's when it hit him.

"How am I going to color 13 stripes?" Delsonno wondered, before realizing it was nearly impossible on a six-inch-by-six-inch ceramic tile to fit 13 stripes — never mind painting 50 stars. He decided to take artistic license and limit the amount of stars and stripes instead.

Delsonno was taking part in a project, funded by the Arlington Education Enrichment Fund (AEEF), where Peirce School students design and paint ceramic tiles, which will be placed at the school when it is completed later this year. Until the new school opens, the kindergarten through third grades are learning at the Stratton School, while the fourth and fifth graders travel each morning to the Brackett School.

After each Peirce class paints the tiles, the artwork will be fired at Clay Dreams before being permanently installed into the new building.

Parent volunteer Jean Camp, who wrote the grant for the project, hopes that schools develop their own tile project in the future.

"The hope is that this project can serve as a model for all Arlington schools, regardless of the state of

construction," she said.

Camp added that the project brings a number of benefits: school beautification, community building, increases children's self-esteem, connects the students to the new school, fosters cooperation and teamwork, and brings about creative learning about the construction project.

Delsonno, however, was not contemplating those benefits last Friday. He was just trying to paint a colorful flag on his tile.

While slowly painting the white stars with a small brush, Delsonno talked of his work's inspiration.

"I thought about Sept. 11 and wanted to paint a flag," he said.

On the other side of art teacher Sandy Goodman's room, third grader Madeline Jennings meticulously worked on her tile, making sure that she stayed within her penciled lines. Like the other students, Jennings colored her piece on paper before coming to class.

"I did the design by drawing circles and lines and then coloring them in," said Jennings, who modestly said it only took her 25 minutes to color her draft.

At the next table, Michael Olson worked on his tile, which showed a flight of fantasy. Olson painted a green baseball field and on either side wrote, "Red Sox 10, Yankees, 0." His piece made a nearby student

■ SEE TILES, PAGE 23

INSIDE

Exploring cuts

In an attempt to cut more than \$900,000 from its 2003 budget, the School Department presented a plan Tuesday, which would include layoffs, restructuring the Arlington High School Guidance Department, and cuts in textbook purchases.

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FOR THE RECORD

POLICE LOG

The following are excerpts from the Arlington Police Department log. The log is available to the public.

Monday, Jan. 14

• At 11:23 a.m., a Cliff Street resident reported that a motor vehicle's window was smashed and a CD player and CDs were taken.

• At 2:29 p.m., a Massachusetts Avenue business reported that a bad check for \$90 was passed.

Tuesday, Jan. 15

• At 8:34 a.m., police responded to a call near the Bishop School concerning a dog biting a person on the left arm.

• At 4:22 p.m., an Everett Street resident reported that jewelry was missing. There was no forced entry.

Wednesday, Jan. 16

• At 4:47 p.m., the Police Department received a call concerning a Trowbridge Street resident, whose cellular phone was stolen around Labor Day.

Thursday, Jan. 17

• At 11:41 a.m., a woman reported a purse snatching on Massachusetts Avenue.

• At 3:29 p.m., police responded to a call regarding graffiti on a Ryder Street building.

• At 10:02 p.m., a Cleveland Street resident reported that a television news crew was knocking on the door.

Friday, Jan. 18

• At 11:19 a.m., a woman reported a purse snatching at a Massachusetts Avenue business. A man had held open the door for her and when she went to pay for her items, she found that her purse was missing.

• At 5:34 p.m., a Columbia Road resident told police that a car was keyed.

• At 10:14 p.m., police received a call concerning teenage girls running in traffic on Massachusetts Avenue. Officers were unable to locate the teens.

Saturday, Jan. 19

• At 7:34 a.m., a Laurel Street resident reported a broken car window.

• At 11:37 a.m., an Old Colony Lane resident told police that a 1998 Ford Explorer was

Monday, Jan. 14

• At 8:30 p.m., police arrested John J. Gonski, 31, 9 Locust St., Dedham, and charged him with operating a motor vehicle while under the influence of alcohol. Officer Gary Grinnell responded to a minor traffic accident at Massachusetts Avenue and Marion Road. When Grinnell arrived at the scene, he found that Gonski was slurring his words and was unsteady on his feet. Grinnell asked Gonski to perform field sobriety tests, which the Dedham man failed. The officer arrested Gonski.

Wednesday, Jan. 16

• At 9:30 p.m., police arrested Sean R. Harding, 24, 16 Lowell St., Lexington, and charged him with operating a motor vehicle while under the influence of alcohol, drinking from an open container in a motor vehicle, and operating after his license was suspended. Officer Brian Connerney responded to a call concerning a man passed out behind the wheel in the Hawthorne Avenue area. The officer found Harding asleep behind the wheel with the vehicle running, the car in drive, his foot on the brake, and an open Heineken bottle between his legs. When police woke Harding, the car began to roll backward, before stopping around 10 feet away. Connerney arrested Harding.

Thursday, Jan. 17

• At 11 a.m., police arrested Patrick J. O'Connell, 18, 129 Appleton St., and charged him on two warrants for armed robbery and assault by means of a dangerous weapon (a handgun). Inspector John Boyle made the arrest.

Sunday, Jan. 20

• At 2:42 p.m., police responded to a call on Edgehill Road, involving a dog bite. A woman told police that she was checking her mother's house when she saw two black dogs

stolen. The vehicle was found the next day in Waltham.

Arrests

• At 11:15 p.m., police arrested Angelo Pazzia, 32, 2 Hodge Road, and charged him with operation of a motor vehicle after his license was suspended, speeding, and disobeying a traffic control signal. Officer David Brown saw a dump truck with an attached plow drive through a red light at Broadway and Franklin Street. The officer followed the car, which was clocked at 45-50 mph in a 30 mph zone. Brown pulled over the vehicle on Massachusetts Avenue. When the officer checked Pazzia's record, he found that the driver's license was suspended. Brown arrested the man.

Friday, Jan. 18

• At 1:30 a.m., police arrested Samuel Joshua Diamant, 18, 31 Ingleside Road, Lexington, and charged him on a warrant for three counts of masked armed robbery and three counts of assault by means of a dangerous weapon (a handgun). Inspector John Boyle made the arrest.

• At 11:45 a.m., police arrested a 16-year-old and a 15-year-old, who are both Arlington residents, and charged them with breaking and entering in the daytime with the intent to commit a felony. Officer Joe Dunn made the arrest.

• At 4:30 p.m., police arrested Leo J. Dodd, 52, 311 S.E. Third St., #308, Dania Beach, Fla., and charged him with operating an unregistered and uninsured motor vehicle, operating a motor vehicle after his license was suspended, disobeying a traffic control signal, and attaching plates. Officer Michael Wesley saw a car drive through a stop sign at Lowell Street and Massachusetts Avenue and the driver

continued driving erratically. Wesley pulled over the vehicle and found that Dodd's vehicle was not registered or insured and his license was suspended. The officer arrested the Florida man.

Saturday, Jan. 19

• At 5:20 a.m., police arrested Robert J. Parrish, 22, 69 Sherrick Ave., Holbrook, and charged him with possession of a Class B substance (ecstasy), possession of a Class E substance (Neurotin), and five warrants. Officer Stephen Krepelka saw a motor vehicle with a defective tail light on Tufts Street. He pulled over the car. When Krepelka approached the vehicle and was talking to the driver, he felt the driver and passenger were acting peculiar and asked them to exit the vehicle so he could search them and the car. The officer found 30 pills believed to be ecstasy and 50 Neurotin pills that were prescribed to someone else. Krepelka arrested Parrish.

Monday, Jan. 21

• At 6:15 p.m., police arrested Samuel B. Milan, 34, 73 Broadway, Quincy, and charged him with operating a motor vehicle after his license was suspended and two warrants for operating a motor vehicle with a suspended license and a right light violation. Officer Bryan Gallagher saw a vehicle go through a red light at Summer and Mill streets. The officer pulled over the vehicle on Summer Street. Milan said he did not have a license in his possession. Gallagher checked Milan's record and found that the man's license was suspended, and he had two default warrants on him. The officer arrested Milan.

running loose with neighbors chasing after them. The woman reached down to grab one of the dogs, a basset hound, and was bitten on the right hand. The dogs then ran into the woman's open car and wouldn't allow anyone near them. Police called the Animal-Rescue-League, which said it could not respond

for two hours. A short time later, a Cutter Hill Road resident reported that her two black dogs were missing after an oil man left the gate open. The woman arrived on scene, retrieved the dogs from the car, and was told of the dog bite incident. Animal Control is investigating the matter.

FIRE LOG

The Arlington Fire Department responded to 73 calls from Jan. 14-20, including 46 with Rescue, six fire alarms, and 11 investigations. References to paramedics denote two-medical teams from Armstrong Ambulance Service, a private Arlington-based ambulance company. The following are excerpts from the Fire Department log; the information is available to the public.

Monday, Jan. 14

• At 4:55 p.m., a 56-year-old man was injured after his van struck a telephone pole on Mystic Street. Firefighters placed the driver, who was not wearing his seat belt, on a backboard and put a collar around his neck. They also checked the man's vital signs and administered oxygen. Rescue with paramedics transported him to Lahey Clinic.

Tuesday, Jan. 15

• At 4:47 a.m., the Fire Department received a call concerning an 18-year-old Appleton Street resident who was unresponsive. Firefighters checked the teen's vital signs and administered oxygen. Rescue with paramedics transported him to Lahey Clinic, where he regained consciousness.

Wednesday, Jan. 16

• At 12:21 p.m., a 17-year-old Claremont Avenue resident complained of chest pain. Firefighters checked the girl's vital signs and administered oxygen. Rescue with paramedics transported her to Children's Hospital.

Thursday, Jan. 17

• At 6:56 a.m., a 2-year-old Windmill Lane resident suffered a seizure. Firefighters placed the child on oxygen. Rescue with paramedics transported him to Winchester Hospital.

Saturday, Jan. 19

• At 5:16 a.m., firefighters responded to a call regarding an 81-year-old Newcomb Street resident who was suffering from a diabetic reaction. Firefighters administered oxygen. Rescue with paramedics transported her to Lahey Clinic.

Sunday, Jan. 20

• At 2:25 p.m., a 58-year-old Thorndike Street resident complained of chest pain. Firefighters checked the man's vital signs and administered oxygen. Rescue with paramedics transported him to Mt. Auburn Hospital.

MEETINGS

Thursday, Jan. 24

- Arlington Housing Authority meets at 6:30 p.m. in the John F. Cusack Board Room, Winslow Towers, 4 Winslow St.
- Symmes Advisory Committee meets at 7 p.m. in the Robbins Library, Community Room.
- Council on Aging meets at 7:30 p.m. in the Senior Center, first floor.
- Arlington Historic Districts Commission meets at 8 p.m. in the Whittemore-Robbins House.

Monday, Jan. 28

- Board of Selectmen meets at 7:15 p.m. in the Selectmen's Meeting Room, Town Hall, second floor.

Tuesday, Jan. 29

- Park and Recreation Commission meets at 7 p.m. in the Selectmen's Hearing Room, Town Hall, second floor. The architectural presentations of the Robbins Farm and Spy Pond projects are on the agenda.
- Permanent Town Building Committee meets at 7:30 p.m. in the Town Hall Annex, second floor.

Wednesday, Jan. 30

- Maintenance Study Committee meets at 5 p.m. in the Town Hall Annex, first floor.

Thursday, Jan. 31

- Contributory Retirement Board meets at 4:30 p.m. in the School Committee Room, Arlington High School, sixth floor.

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First new team record is set for season by Dolphins

The swimmers of the Arlington Boys and Girls Club team are peaking in performance as the season passes the half-way point. Last Friday's meet against a strong Charlestown team saw many time improvements.

Kelly Macarthy, one of the representatives of the 12 and under group, set the first new team record this season in the 50 yd backstroke event.

8 and under swimmers

The 6-8 yr old swimmers dominated their age group and got each event off to a strong start. Two strong medley relay teams took first and second places in the opening event. The four-stroke relay team of Katherine Britt, Alison Fleming, Lydia Hill and Bettina Tassone finished first in 1:33.36, and the team of Aubree Andres, Maddie Andres, Max McDaniel and Ryan Packard was second.

Katherine Britt bettered her personal record, winning the individual medley in 1:53.30.

Alison Fleming touched first in the 25 yd freestyle race, setting a new personal record of 16.73 seconds. Amanda Granato was third, also in a new record mark of 17.44. Ashley Bingham, John DeCoursey, Colleen Munroe, Diego Paris and Eric Stockwood also swam their fastest times this season in this event.

In the 25 yd butterfly race Elizabeth Bransford bettered her personal record by six seconds to capture second place in 25.67. Lydia Hill (third place) and Chris Goode also set new personal marks for the butterfly.

Lydia Hill came in first in the

50 yd freestyle competition in 44.47, edging Ellen Duddy (44.78) who set a new personal record. Bettina Tassone also lowered her personal best time for the 50 free.

Alison Fleming won the 25 yd backstroke event in her best time this season, 21.42. Maddie Andres was third, also in personal record time of 25.17. Diego Paris, Colleen Munroe and Eric Stockwood also lowered their backstroke records.

Jennifer Wall finished first in 25.59 and Max McDaniel (26.26) was second in the 25 yd breaststroke competition. Steffi Klosterman, Katherine Britt, Thomas Ohno-Machado, and Amanda Granato also improved their times in this event.

In the freestyle relay competition the team of Ellen Duddy, Ashley Bingham, Chris Goode, and Amanda Granato was first in 1:23.53. Erica County, Steffi Klosterman, John DeCoursey, Colleen Munroe, Peter Kotiuga, Eric Stockwood, Thomas Ohno-Machado and Jennifer Wall swam well in two other relay squads.

10 and under swimmers

This age group also rose to the challenge of stiff competition, starting with the medley relay team of Amy McLaughlin, Alex Takats, Luke Fey and Emily Fleming who finished second in 1:17.33. Showing team versatility and depth, Alyssa Peterson, Tory Coughlin, Olivia Cappello, Katherine Reilly, Julia Howard, Daniel Masi, Sylvia Wright, and Nicholas Koenig swam well in two other medley entries.

Emily Fleming placed second in a new personal record for the

100 yd individual medley race in 1:28.64. Christina Macarthy was third in 1:33.53.

In the 50 yd freestyle race Luke Fey touched first in personal record time of 32.15. Gabrielle Velez was second in 33.60. Rawan Abujoub, Catherine Doran, Kyle Glacken, Seth Hildick-Smith, Julia Imposimato, Nicholas Koenig, and Anthony Taylor also lowered their personal marks in this event.

Gabriele Velez finished third in the 50 yd butterfly race in 43.34 seconds. Sylvia Wright was fourth in a new personal best time of 56.14.

Luke Fey lowered his personal record by five seconds to touch first in the 100 yd freestyle competition in 1:19.82. Rachel Gresser was second in 1:34.21. Jen Stockwood and Tory Coughlin also improved on their record times for the 100 free.

Lauren Chin finished third in the 50 yd backstroke race in 49.95. Seth Hildick-Smith was fourth in 53.46. Lauren Andleman, Lauren Duddy, Kyle Glacken, Molly McCune, Amy McLaughlin, and Lauren Mucci all set new personal best marks in the backstroke.

In the 50 yd breaststroke competition Lauren Chin finished second in a new personal mark of 48.97 seconds. Catherine Doran was fourth, also in a personal best time of 49.63. Olivia Cappello also set a new personal record in a latter heat.

The freestyle relay team of Will McCarthy, Jen Stockwood, Cristi-

na Macarthy, and Gabrielle Velez closed in on the team record finishing first in 1:04.33. Other swimmers who represented the group on relay teams were Lauren Chin, Seth Hildick-Smith, Lauren Duddy, Molly McCune, Julia Imposimato, Alisa Peterson, Rebecca Penney, Edward Alvarez, Rachel Gresser, Lauren Andleman, Anthony Taylor and Catherine Doran.

12 and under swimmers

The 12 and under group faced a very strong age group squad from Charlestown. They rose to the competition setting many personal and one team record. Starting off the 200 yd medley relay team of Kelly Macarthy, Robert St. Laurence, Erica Walkinshaw and Mary Ellen Keefe came in second in the fastest medley team time this season 2:29.72.

All three swimmers set new personal records in the 100 yd individual medley event. Robbie St. Laurence took second in 1:23.62. Michael Ou 91:33.48) and Callie McHugh (1:38.73) also swam very strong races.

Brian Wright got points for the team with a third place finish in a personal record time of 34.40 in the 50 yd freestyle race. Marissa Carr (fourth place), Christine Bridges, Andrew Gillis, Carol Huben, and Lisa Packard also set new season personal records.

In the 50 yd butterfly race Kelly Macarthy placed second in 39.84. Irene Manolopoulos and Mary

Ellen Keefe set new personal marks...

Erica Walkinshaw set a new personal record finishing third in the 100 yd freestyle race in 1:17.97. Ben Flaven, Marissa Carr, Lydia Carroon and Mary Ellen Keefe also established new personal records at this distance.

Kelly Macarthy lowered her personal and the Team's all time record for the 50 yd backstroke coming in second in 35.66. Carol Huben, Marlene Mead and Lisa Packard also lowered their personal records.

In the 50 yd breaststroke competition Robbie St. Laurence finished first in 39.45. Lydia Carroon, Brian Wright and Erica Walkinshaw set new personal records.

Three strong teams showed the group's depth in the 200 yd freestyle relay event. The team of Andrew Gillis, Michael Ou, Callie McHugh and Brian Wright was second in 2:28.77. Ben Flaven, Irene Manolopoulos, Kelly Macarthy, Dana Rudin, Christine Bridges, Carol Huben, Madeleine Kotiuga and Marlene Mead also swam well in the relay.

14 and under swimmers

Despite a stroke disqualification on the medley relay race this group won the majority of the points in their events.

Arlington swept the 200 yd freestyle competition. Katherine Ou (249.75) was first. Anna Sachs (2:52.57) and Michele Kotiuga (3:01.39) were second and third. Sara Stockwood placed second in the individual medley event in 3:06.74.

In the 50 yd freestyle sprint

Sara Stockwood took second place in 31.79. Danielle Monteiro was fourth in 34.81. Yana Veirboom set a new personal record while Laura Sender and Betsy Coughlin swam strong races in later heats of the 50 free.

Glenn Marmon was the victor in the 100 yd freestyle competition, posting a 1:09.02 in his first attempt at this distance this season.

It was Brendan Fleming who won the backstroke race in a personal record time of 1:24.28. Yana Veirboom was third in 1:34.49. Anna Sachs also improved her time in the backstroke.

Glenn Marmon came in first in the 100 yd breast stroke, also setting a new record for this season, in 1:23.35. Amanda Sullivan was fourth in 1:38.16.

With only one point separating the team's victory for the group came down to the freestyle relay event. The team of Sara Stockwood, Yana Veirboom, Anna Sachs, and Brendan Fleming won in the team's fastest posting this season, 2:09.34.

18 and under swimmers

Demonstrating depth at each stroke the oldest group of swimmers continues to dominate in every event. To start the meet the 200 yd medley relay team of Caitlyn Sullivan, Jon Penney, Fred Dewan, and CJ Mulvey collected the uncontested first place points at 2:26.55. Joanna Shannon won the 200 yd freestyle event in 2:28.53. Fred Dewan came in third in 2:34.07 and Caitlyn Sullivan lowered her personal best time in the event for the third consecutive time.

Arlington High runners compete against strong Cambridge teams

There were tough meets for the Arlington High boys and girls track teams as they ran against the strong Cambridge squads.

The boys team lost by a score of 70-16, while the girls team was defeated by a score of 62-23.

Girls results

Daniela Mauro was second in the 50-yard hurdles in 8.3 and Alexa Rempis was third in 8.8.

Lillian Duffy ran a 9.8. McKane Sharff was second in the 50-yard event in 6.6. Ashley Gustafson ran a 6.8. Nell Avault had a personal best time of 6.9. Eleanor Riccardi a 7.3. Jess

O'Quinn a personal best time of 7.3, and Laura Tiedeman-Mau a 52.5.

Allie Danylik was third in the 300 yard run in 43. Kat Ward, Nell Avault and Hannah Wilson each had personal best times of 44.6, 45.6 and 45.7, respectively. Jess O'Quinn ran a 47.8 and Laura Tiedeman-Mau a 52.3.

Elizabeth Wheatley was third in the 600 in 1:49.5. Melissa Ng ran a 2:05, Emily Rosowski a 2:08.9, Anna McInnes a 2:10, Karina Martel a 2:11, Kim Leverone a 2:12, Joanna Sullivan a 2:12, Stephanie Taylor a 2:12, Lydia Lambert a 2:14, and Naomi Howard a 2:17.

In the 1000 Katie Rosowski finished third in 3:43.6. Callie Teagan ran a personal best 3:53.

Laura Kelly was second as she ran the mile in 6:33.5 and Miranda Gerson ran a 6:33.6. Patty Quinn ran the distance in a personal best 6:58 and Anna Meador a 7:03.

In the two-mile competition Elizabeth Scannell was second in 13:12.6.

Daniela Mauro won the high jump event (4 ft., 10 in.) and Ashley Gustafson was third (4 ft., 2 in.). Eleanor Riccardi had a personal best jump of 4 ft., 2 in.

In the shot put event McKane Sharff had a throw of 27 ft., 3 in,

Alex Rempis a throw of 25 ft., 3 in. and Catherine Hennessey 17 ft., 0.5 in.

Boys results

William Wol led the way in the two-mile run in 11:20.8. Andrew Peach ran an 11:44 and Jeff Castiglione an 11:50.

Ramin Edmond ran an 8.7 in the hurdles.

Steve Brown won the shot put

event (42 ft., 9 in) and Bill Mantley was third (39 ft.). Jerry Dwyer had a throw of 30 ft., 1 in and Chris Magni 27 ft., 9 in.

Mike Vye ran the 50 in 6.2, and Jim Maldonis, Jose Calderone, Mark Ernst, Justin Ranauro ran the distance in 6.3. Ramin Edmond ran a 6.7, and Pat Kline a 7.2.

In the 300 Tyler Rotman ran a 40.3, Jeremy Lee a 40.8. Greg

McKeague 42.3, and Greg Berkson a 43.3.

In the 600 Jim Tirone ran a 1:34.3, Chris Sacca a 1:40.8 and Dan Hurwitz a 1:42.

Eli Gerson was third in the 1000 in 2:32.8. John Kuol was 2:34.3, Ben Howell 2:51, and Cory Leonard 2:57.

Matt Fitzgerald was third in the mile in 5:00.5. Mike Magni did a five foot high jump

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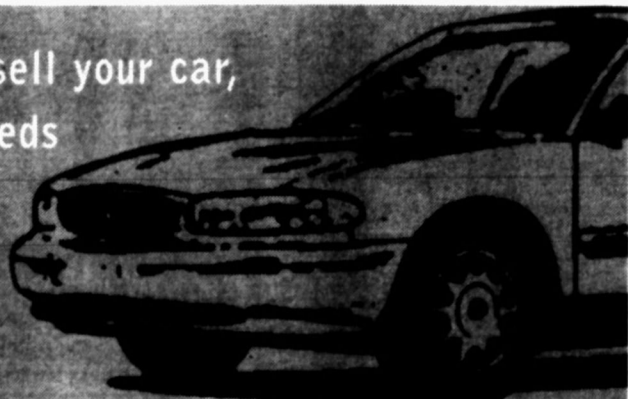
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LENDER

Proposed school budget includes layoffs, textbook cuts

BY DANA FRONCZAK
STAFF WRITER

Early budget numbers from the School Department call for a round of layoffs, restructuring of the Arlington High School Guidance Department, and cuts in textbook purchases for 2003.

The School Department must make up more than \$900,000 of an anticipated deficit in its \$32 million budget for next year, said the schools' Chief Financial Officer David Kale.

Although the projected school budget calls for an increase of 3.8 percent, all of that figure and more is eaten up by increases in teacher's salaries, special education out-of-district tuition, two increases in non-personnel expenses, and the first of a 20-year obligation by the School Department to pay for cost overruns on the Peirce Elementary

School project.

"Tonight's walk through may not sound as difficult as it was. It was extremely hard to do," said Superintendent of Schools Kay Donovan Tuesday.

The cuts in classroom teachers at the elementary level will mean an increase in classroom size in all elementary schools but the Brackett, which gains a teacher for the year. Anticipated enrollment numbers expect an increase in every elementary school's enrollment.

"These cuts are going into the meat of what we do," she said.

Positions will be cut at every elementary school except the Peirce and Bishop. The School Department has also asked the Ottoson Middle School and the high school to eliminate two full-time jobs apiece.

"Although it is a disappointing

budget, it's not what we want, but it is a very diligent effort," said School Committee Chairman Joani LaMachia.

The number are not final yet. The budget will be tinkered with in the next few weeks and then submitted to the Finance Committee, which in November submitted a preliminary budget that called for a \$31.6 million budget for the School Department, \$372,000 less than the schools' proposal.

Finance Committee Chairman Allan Tosti said he will submit revised numbers once there is a more clear picture of the 2003 state budget.

Acting Gov. Jane Swift's numbers, released Wednesday, increase Chapter 70 aid to local school systems. The problem, Tosti said, "is where the money is coming from to pay for that."

List of potential layoffs

The following are anticipated staffing cuts and shifts planned within the preliminary 2003 school budget:

- Increase one Grade 4 teacher, eliminate one Grade 3 teacher, and add one Grade 2 teacher at the Brackett Elementary School.
- Eliminate one Grade 3 and one Grade 1 teacher at the Dallin school.
- Eliminate one Grade 2 teacher at the Hardy School.
- Eliminate one Grade 1 teacher at the Stratton School.
- Eliminate one Grade 3 teacher

at the Thompson School.

- Reduce two Ottoson Middle School full-time teacher positions.
- Reduce two Arlington High School full-time teacher positions.
- A total of three full-time teacher assistant slots would be eliminated at the elementary level for reading. Reading specialists are part-time employees, so this could mean more than three layoffs. Each school would have one full-time reading specialist.
- One elementary academic specialist position would be eliminated.

• Instructional services in the gifted and talented program would decrease. No specifics were offered.

- A full-time technology lead teacher position would be reduced to half-time.
- Two Special Education teaching jobs would be eliminated due to classroom consolidation.
- One job would be eliminated in the facilities and operations departments.
- In all, 17 full-time jobs would be removed.

Breakdown

Other cuts include a \$100,000 reduction in the purchase of new textbooks. Donovan said the school

system has spent large amounts of money in the past few years on new books and could manage a cut this year.

Kale also plans to save more than \$114,000 by moving special education staff into two programs that will shift 12 to 16 students back into the Arlington school system from out-of-district placements.

The restructuring of the Guidance Department caused some questions from School Committee members. With Guidance Director Vincent D'Antona scheduled to retire this year, the department plans to eliminate the director of guidance position and establish a job similar to a lead teacher. The move saves \$50,000, but committee member Suzanne Baratta Owayda

asked what it will actually cost.

Given the combination of mental health counseling and supports for course selection and college admissions that guidance provides, can the department afford to not have a full-time director, wondered School Committee member Martin Thrope.

"Guidance departments should do both," said Donovan.

In addition to salary and special education increases, other jumps in non-discretionary costs include an increase in energy bills at the new elementary schools and money to pay for another school bus to relocate students next year, while the Dallin is under construction.

School Committee Paul Schlichtman, while supportive of the administration, voiced a comment that summed up the feelings of the evening.

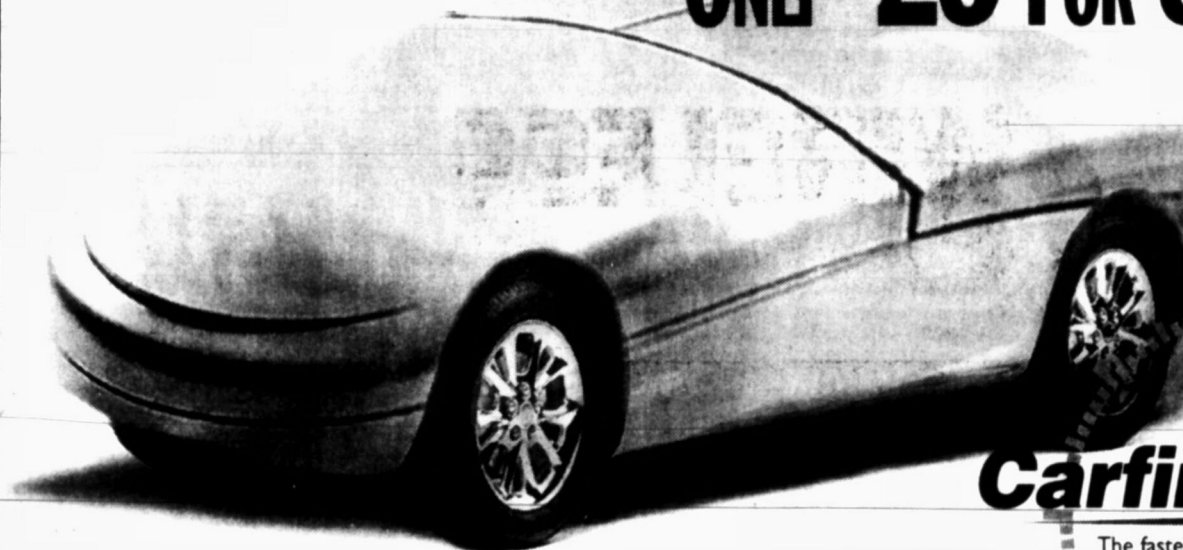
"We cannot buy back a year of a kid's life," Schlichtman said. "I didn't get elected to preside over the dismantling of the progress we have made."

GIRL SCOUT NEWS

• Attention Arlington Older Girl, Girl Scouts (grades 6-12): the second annual Career Day will be held at St. Camillus Church, Dow Avenue off Route 2, on Sunday, Jan. 27, from 2-4:30 p.m. There will be 13 speakers. Leaders and parents are welcome. For information, contact Sue Fitzgerald, 781-646-5928.

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Farrington hopes to retain town employees despite budget crunch

BY DANA FRONCZAK
STAFF WRITER

The town's 2003 proposed budget includes no layoffs, said Town Manager Phil Farrington, but state aid, local receipts and the Finance Committee's review could all factor into final recommendations.

Farrington has released a \$40.5 million budget for fiscal year 2003. Separate from the school's budget, which is in the early stages of development, Farrington's recommendations mostly preserve services and staffing at current levels.

"This is definitely a work in progress," Farrington said. "I will

do my best if positions have to be eliminated to keep that to vacant positions instead of occupied ones."

There are four open positions in the Fire Department, one opening in the Police Department, and "a couple of clerical positions." Although he was not sure, he said it was "safe to assume a couple of openings" in the Department of Public Works.

The news at the state level was a tiny bit reassuring Tuesday, when acting Gov. Jane Swift announced that her 2003 budget will not impact Chapter 70 education aid to cities and towns. Farrington said

any cuts in school aid would affect both sides of town government, adding that "it would be fiscally irresponsible for them not to."

The \$40.5 million total is \$2.6 million more than last year, a increase of 6.4 percent. The vast majority of that increase, said Deputy Town Manager Nancy Galkowski, came from increases in salary and steps for employees and hikes in health insurance costs.

Insurance alone is costing the town an additional \$1 million this year and \$877,000 of that total is health insurance, due to more retirees staying on the plan who have to be replaced with new

employees and other employees going on the rolls whose spouses may have lost their jobs, Galkowski said. Despite that steep hike, it actually represents a smaller increase than last year's budget.

Galkowski said the town has retained its health care consultant to look at possibly changing health plans to save money.

Although it had been reviewed in previous meetings on health care, Farrington would not discuss if the town will ask the unions to pay a higher percentage of their health care costs. Within the town's most popular health care plan — HMO Blue — the town pays 90 percent of the premium.

All of the town's union contracts are up for renewal this year. Once contracts are negotiated, the increases are submitted as a warrant articles for Town Meeting approval.

One major new initiative the town will undertake is revamping its emergency dispatch system. Farrington and Director of Police Services Fred Ryan want to hire a full-time dispatcher supervisor to oversee the nine-member staff and

certify dispatchers for emergency medical response.

"This was a second priority last year to increasing the number of uniformed police officers," said Farrington, which the town enacted by hiring five new patrolmen.

Other new staff coming from budget monies will include a consulting firm to oversee the cleanup of Peirce Field. Although private companies assumed responsibility for the removal and capping of contamination in and around the high school field, Farrington felt that "it is very important that we monitor this work to insure its completion to our satisfaction."

While education aid may not be impacted, one place where residents will see a difference this year or next is on town roadways. The state did not fund any highway assistance for 2002 and does not expect to in 2003.

"This is a program where if the state doesn't fund the money, there is no appropriation," Farrington said. "It's not like how it works with education money, where if you lose state aid you have to make up the difference."

Capital Budget

Included among the items bonded within this year's capital budget is the first year of a six-year plan to renovate Arlington's three fire stations.


A study the town commissioned is late, so Farrington and the Capital Planning Committee have built the Park Avenue station into this year's plan because it suffers from the worst disrepair.

The stations will be repaired in sequence, but not concurrently, so design on the Central Fire Station won't happen until 2005, after the Park Circle station is rebuilt. The committee felt that one project right after another would strain Arlington's bonding authority.


The town manager is confident that the town still requires three station "and maybe four," he said.

"Considering that we have not built a fire station in 60 years... this community is small but very dense, with a lot of high-rise apartment buildings," he said.

Also appropriated was \$325,000 to help repair the Spy Pond shoreline. Most other capital items are smaller expenditures, such as motor vehicles and heavy equipment.



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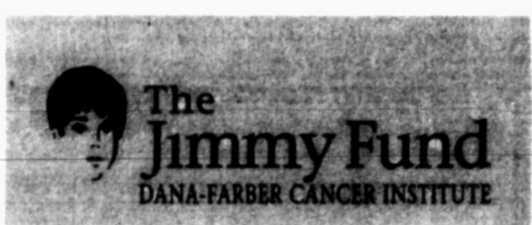
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LEARNING

SCHOOL NOTES

Stratton games night

The Stratton PTO socials committee is the host for a games night for Stratton families at the Ottoson Middle School on Friday, Jan. 25, from 6:45 to 8:15 p.m.

The event will take place in the "old gymnasium" and will include both cooperative and independent games.

Admission is free. Sneakers are required.

Information: Pam Edelman (781-643-9685) or Nina Martorana (781-648-7633).

PTO offers thanks

The Stratton PTO has thanked all who contributed to the Holiday Gift Fund. The PTO collected \$950.

The money will be used to purchase geometric-shaped dies for our Accu-Cut machine, which teachers use to cut multiple shapes and letters quickly.

The PTO will also be purchasing fans for each classroom this spring.

The school was also involved in collecting coats for the Anton's Cleaners' Coats for Kids program. Stratton families contributed more than 200 coats.

Upcoming at Stratton:

- Next PTO meeting, Wednesday, Feb. 6 at 7 p.m., auditorium.

- An Asian

Lunar New Year Celebration commemorating the year of the horse is tentatively scheduled for Feb. 8. This is a schoolwide event, and volunteers are needed to help run it. If you would like to help, contact Leslie Swartz (781-641-3556) or Sharon Hannon (781-63-3119).

• An organizational meeting for a Colonial Day, to take place on May 31, is set for Judi Paradis' house Jan. 30 at 7:30 p.m. This is a daylong event for third grades from Stratton and Peirce. Information: Michelle Hamblin (781-646-8805).

• The Family Dance on March 1, a fund-raising event. Included will be a raffle for class baskets, as well as pizza and dancing.

• Other PTO events coming up include another opportunity to purchase Stratton School T-shirts, hats and other merchandise, candy sales, an ice-skating party, a TV turn-off week social event and the Family Ice Cream Social and Picnic. A Family Fun Fair is set for May 18.

• Kindergarten registration, Monday, Feb. 11, 5:30 p.m.; presentation/Information, 7 p.m.; Tuesday, Feb. 12, 9:15 to 10:30 a.m., registration.

Performing with Buchanan will be flutist Mies Boet-Whitaker and

percussionist Bob Schulz. This is during school vacation week.

All proceeds will go to the Peirce School enrichment program.

Buchanan is popular among families with young children. Her CD "Make It a Song, Song, Song," released this year, was named a 2001 Finalist for Best New Artist for Young Children, awarded by the Children's Music Web, the only award judged by children and their families.

"Antelope Dance" and her new train number, "Chugga Chugga Ding Ding," are top singles on the local kid pop charts.

In addition to playing and teaching the flute, Boet-Whitaker is a teacher in the Arlington school system. She accompanies Buchanan on the CD.

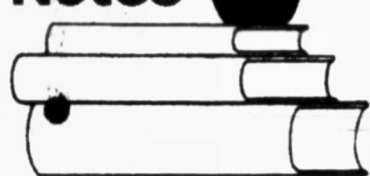
Schulz performs percussion programs for schools as well.

Advance ticket prices are \$4 for adults and \$3 for children.

At the door: \$5 for adults and \$4 for children. Those 12 months old and younger are free. Refreshments, CDs and tapes will be for sale.

To buy advance tickets, call Donna (781-646-8514).

School Notes



Sponsors needed

Organizers are seeking sponsors for rides and games for the

Bishop Bear Fair, the school's main fund-raiser for the year, to be held Saturday, May 18.

Sponsors can choose a specific ride or game such as the Moonwalk, Giant Slide, Pony Rides, etc., or can simply donate funds to help defray costs for the fair.

Businesses, families and individuals wishing to sponsor an event at the Bishop Bear Fair should contact Cindy Starks (781-646-8887) and acmi@mediaone.net or Chris Doherty (dotclan1@msn.com).

Library meeting

Library Enrichment Committee to meet 10 a.m. Friday, Jan. 25, at Mary Ellen DeNatale's house, 28 Coolidge Road, to discuss plans for a major book drive for the library, the spring reading challenge and a book fair presented by Curious George at Wordsworth Bookstore.

This new committee welcomes anyone who would like to enrich Brackett children's library experiences. Interested but can't attend? Contact Sheila Packard (648-1091) or srp@mac.com.

Upcoming at Brackett:

• The last day for third graders to bring in food for the Food Pantry is Thursday, Jan. 24.

• "Read Across Brackett Night," formerly known as Dr. Seuss/Literary Night, is coming March 7. Planned is a low-key evening with some guest readers from the school and/or the community. On display will be students' written and artistic work. Anyone who would like to help with the event should come to a meeting at the school on Friday, Jan. 25, at 1 p.m., likely in the teacher's dining room near the cafeteria; look for a note on the

front door. Contact Laurie Foster or Kristin Rogers.

• The FTO needs a committee to organize the June Fair. Typically it takes two to three people. Info is available from previous years and many who have helped in the past. Interested? Contact Elena Bartholomew (781-643-3638).

Ottoson students needed

Links Program is looking for students who would like paid jobs shoveling snow and various odd jobs. Applications in the main office; guidance counselor Eric Saum can answer questions.

Auditions at Ottoson

"Once Upon a Mattress" auditions begin this week. Singing auditions are Friday, Jan. 25; acting auditions are Monday, Jan. 28.

Upcoming at Ottoson:

- Dance, Friday, Feb. 1, 7 to 10 p.m.

Volunteers sought

The Arlington Child Assault Prevention Program (CAPP) seeks new volunteers to deliver the program to grades 1 and 3 in the Arlington Public Schools.

CAPP is a primary-prevention program that aims to empower children to keep safe by understanding their rights to be safe, strong and free. The program encourages children to stand up for themselves and to go to trusted adults in their life when they need help.

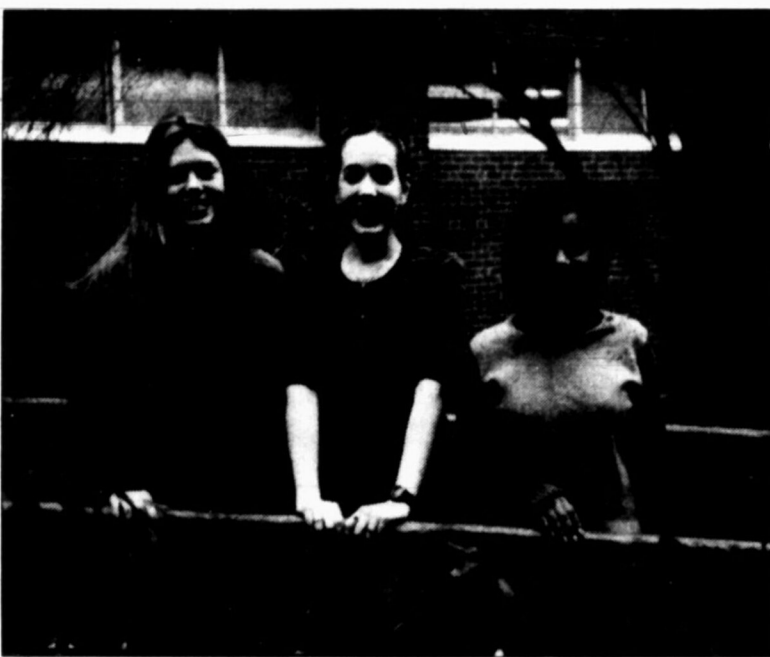
Arlington has had great success over the past 10 years in delivering the program to elementary schools. To continue our work we are seeking volunteers willing to work in classrooms a minimum of five hours a year.

The initial training will take place Tuesday, Jan. 29, from 6:30 to 10 p.m., and Tuesday, Feb. 5, from 7 to 10 p.m. It is necessary to attend both evenings.

Further information: Carlene Newell (781-316-3571) or Cindy Bouvier (781-316-3570).

Thompson contributes

Mike McCabe, principal at the Thompson School, says that the



Jill Savage, Julia Young, and Temika Groves, who are advanced placement art students, had their works accepted in the Wang Young At Arts Contest. Only 50 pieces were chosen from more than 1,000 entries.

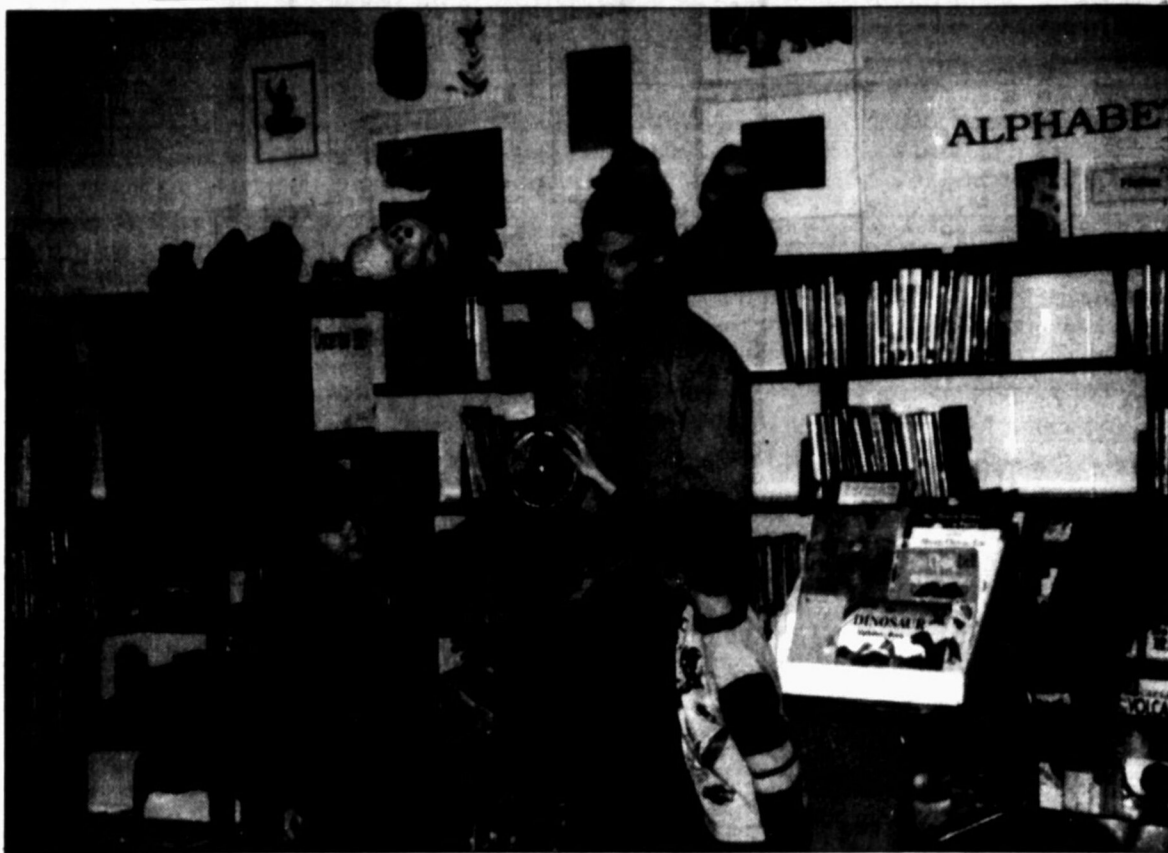


PHOTO BY KAREN COLEMAN

Channel 5 meteorologist David Brown recently visited the first grade classes at the Dallin School. Above, Brown has students Stephanie Bent and Michael Carley test a machine that demonstrates the conduction of electricity, which is evident in lightning.

following letter dated Jan. 15 was sent to President Bush:

"The children at our school contributed their pennies, nickels, and dimes for your 'Afghan Children's Fund.' We've attached our check for \$244. We hope that it will help the children and that it will help people everywhere understand that Americans are peace loving people who care for all the children of the world."

Thompson fest

Planning is under way for the Thompson International Festival, to take place March 23. Volunteers are needed to serve on organizing committees. If you are interested in helping out, contact Emily Morrison (781-648-7539) or Vicki Rose (781-316-3774).

Upcoming at Thompson:

• The musical talents of a Bolivian group called Sumaj Chasquis will entertain Thompson students Friday, Jan. 25. This performance is

brought to the students through the PTO Cultural Enrichment fund.

Parent Web page coming

The following is a recent informal update from AHS Principal Stephen Woodcock:

The Parent Advisory Committee met Jan. 7 and discussed several topics. The conversations provided several outstanding suggestions for ways to improve both the culture and programs at AHS. In addition, the new AHS parent Web page was highlighted. The principal hopes that this student-created site will be online soon.

All students recently received academic-progress information. Grade 9 students received a brief written form and grades 10, 11 and 12 met individually with their faculty to get an update of where they stand and their opportunities for improvement.

In response to the Sept. 11 tragedy, students under the direction of Pauline Finberg have been able to schedule a bloodmobile for March 14 in the Toz Gymnasium. Save the date and help us support each other by donating blood if you're able.

Grade 9 students participated in an anti-harassment assembly Jan. 10, part of the schools' ongoing efforts to educate and support the concept of acceptance of all.

In recent weeks, about two dozen students from Armenia have been in the Arlington area. These students have spent a couple of days at AHS shadowing our students and learning about the American High School. This brief exposure has proven to be beneficial for both sets of students.

Joint faculty/parent committees continue to study and make recommendations regarding ways to improve the safety in the schoolhouse. Principal expects the final proposal will go before the School Committee for their review in late

spring and be put into effect next September.

Another joint parent/faculty committee is in the final stages of preparing recommendations for increased graduation requirements for the Class of 2006. The draft proposal should be completed for review by the entire faculty and School Council by early February. Once this is complete the document will move on to the superintendent and School Committee for their consideration.

AHS calendar

- Friday, Jan. 25, second quarter closes
- Tuesday, Jan. 29, Scantrons due at 9 a.m.
- Thursday, Jan. 31, Martin Luther King assembly, period 5.
- Thursday, Feb. 6, early release day, 12:30 p.m., lunch served.

School e-mail lists

You can learn what's going in the following Arlington public schools by subscribing to an e-mail list for that school. They are those for Arlington High School, Ottoson (two groups), Bishop and Thompson PTO.

The latest addition is the list for Stratton PTO.

Each of these e-mail lists is available through Egroups at Yahoo.com. For instructions to subscribe to each list, see <http://www.town.arlington.ma.us/elists.htm>.

School news

You can tell the public news about your public school by e-mailing school-related items to Bob Sprague (bsprague1@rcn.com), communication specialist, Arlington public schools or call 781-641-4490 before 10 a.m. any Monday for publication in The Advocate the following Thursday of that week. School information is posted on the town's Web site.

ON CAMPUS

• Wentworth Institute of Technology awarded degrees to more than 700 students this past year, including Arlington residents:

Ohannis V. Dikramanjan, bachelor's degree in computer engineering technology;

Daniel E. Dutra, bachelor's degree in computer science;

Timothy C. Lillis, bachelor's degree in industrial design;

Joseph M. Ronayne, bachelor's degree in construction management;

and Thomas R. Shea, associate's degree in mechanical design technology.

• Colleen M. Powers of Arlington has named to Quinnipiac University's dean's list for the Fall 2001 semester.

• Cindy Wu of Arlington has enrolled as a member of the class of 2005 at Dartmouth College. Wu is the daughter of Chingying Tzeng and Chia-Chuan Wu.

• Cadet Timothy Millian of Arlington has been named to the Dean's List and Cadet Ian McMakin of Arlington has been named to the President's List at the Massachusetts Maritime Academy.

SCHOOL LUNCH MENUS

MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL

Week of Jan. 28

Monday

Veal parmesan, pasta with sauce, tossed salad, French bread.

Tuesday

Veggie pocket, pasta salad, juice bar.

Wednesday

Roast turkey, gravy, baked potato, carrots, cranberry sauce.

Thursday

Teriyaki beef, stir fry vegetables, fried rice.

Friday

N/A
Sandwiches, salad, pasta, stir fry,

grill and daily specials also offered daily. Fruit, vegetable, bread and milk served with all meals.

ELEMENTARY

Monday

Personal pan pizza, oven baked fries, green beans; chicken nuggets, dipping sauce, rice, vegetable; toasted ham and cheese sandwich, sun chips, fruit bar.

Tuesday

American chop suey, bread stick, peas; turkey roll up, macaroni salad, raisins; Caesar salad, bread stick, yogurt, apple juice.

Wednesday

Roast turkey, gravy, rice, carrots, cranberry sauce; hot dog, pretzels, pineapple; macaroni and cheese, tossed salad, French bread.

Thursday

Popcorn chicken, dipping sauce, rice, peas; stuffed crust pizza, tossed salad, raisins; toasted cheese sandwich, pretzels, fruit bar.

Friday

N/A
Fruit, vegetable, bread and milk served with every meal.

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School helps homeless vets

Students from St. Agnes School in Arlington are taught to "encourage a spirit of service within the school, the family, the local and the global community."

This encouragement was spread recently when clothing, food and toiletries, donated and collected by Saint Agnes' students, their families and staff members, were delivered to veterans who are homeless at the New England Shelter for Homeless Veterans (NESHV) in Boston. Students prepared 300 toiletry gift bags for each veteran residing at the NESHV and included a holiday card, which they also designed and decorated.

Ellen Ciarloney, eighth grade social studies teacher and advisor at Saint Agnes School said, "The students participated in National Veterans Awareness Week activities in November to learn more about veterans' issues. Recognizing the contributions of our nation's veterans, the students wanted to give something back to veterans to show their appreciation."

Founded in 1990 at 17 Court St. in Boston, the New England Shelter for Homeless Veterans has served nearly 11,000 veterans. Residents include men and women who have served in the armed forces as long ago as World War II and as recently as this year. NESHV is a not-for-profit, substance-free organization that offers a wide range of support and services to veterans who are homeless including drug and alcohol counseling, psychological and post-traumatic stress disorder therapy, vocational training and job placement, medical and dental services, spiritual care and hot meals. In addition, NESHV provides veterans in need with the tools and opportunities to create productive and fulfilling lives for themselves.

"There has been a tremendous patriotic outpouring since Sept. 11," remarked Tom Lyons, executive director of the New England Shelter for Homeless Veterans. "We ask a lot of those who wear our country's uniform and we are grateful to the Saint Agnes community and many others for remembering their sacrifices."

To support homeless veterans or for more information, please call 617-371-1709.

MUSICIANS PERFORM AT STATE HOUSE



The Arlington Select Elementary Chamber Orchestra and Brackett and Hardy School Select Chorus performed a holiday concert at the Statehouse in December. Pictured with the orchestra and chorus are Barry Singer, choral accompanist, Jennifer Kobayashi, choral accompanist, Dr. Pasquale Tassone, Arlington director of performing arts, Debra Thoresen, orchestra director, Sen. Robert Havem, and Gina Esile-Sylva, chorus director.

Brooks honored at Dearborn recognition luncheon

At its second annual recognition luncheon, Dearborn Academy recently honored Dr. Robert Brooks, MD., a renowned writer, clinician and long time researcher in the areas of self-esteem and resilience in children.

Addressing a crowd of parents, educators, clinicians and friends of Dearborn Academy, Brooks painted vivid portraits of children and young people who have overcome great odds in their own lives. He reminded the audience of the importance of being a "charismatic adult" in the life of a child and applauded those in attendance for their work in this regard.

Brooks recently co-authored the book "Raising Resilient Children" and has created a documentary and a parent education

manual on this same theme. His videotape and educational guide for PBS titled "Look What You've Done! Stories of Hope and Resilience" focuses attention on self-esteem and resilience in children with special needs. His work has been of major support to parents seeking ways to encourage children with learning and attentional challenges.

Linda Sandford, who was honored at Dearborn's inaugural luncheon, gave a moving and personal introduction of Brooks. Nanci Rosenberg Brody, a former student and faculty member of Dearborn Academy, chaired the luncheon.

Brody is also a trustee of Schools for Children, Inc., the parent organization for Dearborn.

"We are indeed, fortunate to be



Dr. Robert Brooks

present to hear such uplifting stories of children and young people who have found the strength to persevere in spite of such long

Dearborn Academy students give back

The scene in the conference room at Dearborn Academy was one of cheerful chaos.

The huge table was piled high with clothes. The walls and windows were hung with prom dresses and coats. Students surged around the room, rifled through piles of pants, shirts and sweaters, grabbed what they wanted, stuffed bags full and went home happy.

Every year, the Winter Street high school holds a clothing exchange for the benefit of its students. Joyce Radochia said it has been going "almost as long as I've been here, 14 years."

According to Donna Doherty, the education coordinator for the high school, it was "started by Emma Wilson when I was teaching a business management class. She wanted to give the students a chance to set something up."

The exchange was organized by Christine Jones, who is a teacher in the Learning Center, and Dan Falvey, who is a career counselor. Starting in September, teachers and staff members cleaned out their families' closets and collect clothing from friends and neighbors.

"We jump on it as soon as we

can," said Dan Falvey, in order to collect enough clothes.

"I e-mailed all my friends and they all brought me things," said Jones.

"Oh, there's my mother's suit," she exclaimed, while several teachers and senior girls, Mei Huang and Phyllis Weisman, sorted through the bags of clothes, organizing, folding and hanging some on a portable coat-rack that the students had made with Thomas von Huene, head of the shop program.

Classes rotated through the exchange in 20-minute shifts. Falvey, Jones, and the classroom teachers helped students find what they wanted, encouraging several to take dresses or sport coats and dress shirts for graduation.

"The best part is when the elementary school kids come in and take out bags that they can't even carry. They take home stuff for everybody; aunts, sisters, friends," said Jones.

By the time the younger students were done, there was much less left over. Thomas von Huene and Laura Stookey-Stuart, a teacher in the Learning Center, loaded their cars with the excess to drop at Goodwill Industries.

St. Agnes registration

St. Agnes Elementary School in Arlington will hold registration for new students for the 2002-2003 school year at the following times:

Kindergarten: Tuesday, Feb. 5, 9 to 11 a.m. Bring copies of the following: birth certificate, baptismal record and immunization record. Child must be five years old by Oct. 31, 2002.

Grades 1 through 7: Tuesday, Feb. 5, 9 to 11 a.m. Bring copies of the following: birth certificate, baptismal record, health record, First Eucharist certificate and child's last report card.

Re-registration for students already enrolled will be held during the week of Jan. 28.

Open House: For new parents only — 7 to 8 p.m., Wednesday, Jan. 30; for parents whose children attend St. Agnes School, 9 to 10:30 a.m., Tuesday, Jan. 29.

odds," she said.

Dr. Howard Rossman, director of Dearborn Academy applauded the focus on finding adults to stand up on behalf of young people.

"Every day at Dearborn Academy, our entire staff finds themselves engaged in the awesome tasks of rebuilding hope and laying new foundations with young people who have experienced more than their fair share of frustration and failure," Rossman noted.

"The faculty and staff at Dearborn have a working knowledge of what these students go through and really appreciate the advocacy on their behalf by charismatic adults like Robert Brooks, Linda Sanford and all those in the room today," he added.

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Democrats choosing sides as caucus nears

BY DANA FRONCZAK
STAFF WRITER

There's no doubt that the Arlington Democratic caucus on Feb. 2 will be a spirited, maybe raucous affair. With at least five candidates vying for this heavily-Democratic town's 36 delegates to the state Democratic convention in June, the caucus that normally takes a Saturday morning to complete may take all day and longer.

But the local chairmen of each gubernatorial campaign say that, when a final victor emerges from the fray after the Democratic primary in September, he or she will be stronger to battle incumbent Republican Jane Swift because of it.

"It's incredible and exciting," said Jeff Thielman, local campaign manager for former state Sen. Warren Tolman. "It's great for the Democratic party. I hope everyone gets their 15 percent and everyone has their shot on the ballot, a full, fair shot."

Tolman is one of five candidates almost sure to be on the ballot. The others: Senate President Thomas Birmingham, former Democratic National Committee Chairman Steve Grossman, state Treasurer Shannon O'Brien, and Brandeis University Professor and former U.S. Secretary of Labor Robert Reich.

While Secretary of State William Galvin has participated in other gubernatorial debates in recent months, including one in Arlington, Town Democratic Committee Chairman Janice Bakey and others are unaware of any local organization on Galvin's behalf.

No one doubts that donkeys rule in Arlington. In numerical terms, said Pat Deal, a member of the Democratic Town Committee, who's running O'Brien's campaign, the town holds one of the highest "performance" percentages in the state for Democrats. Deal said performance is measured by the number of people who come out and vote Democrat over the total number of registered voters.

In the 2000 presidential election, Democratic presidential candidate Al Gore turned out 55 percent of all registered voters, Deal said, more than in larger cities such as Medford, Malden, Lowell and Waltham.

Interest in the caucus is feverishly high this year, said Bakey. So far, 300 people have signed up; many of them have hopes of landing a spot on the delegation going to the June 1 Democratic Convention in Worcester.

"Last year, basically, anyone could go. This year, competition is very intense," said Bakey.

The Field

Some prominent Arlington figures are heading up the local campaigns, while some less recognizable — but politically active faces — have joined the fray.

Olga Kahn, a former candidate for Housing Authority, is the local vice chairman for Grossman's bid for governor. Chairman Dennis Kelleher was out of town for the week and could not be reached for comment.

As the former chairman of the Democratic National Committee, Grossman "is appropriately positioned to look for regional solutions and not be a regular Massa-

chusetts politician," said Kahn.

Grossman also owns his own business, MassEnvelopePlus in Somerville, and that makes him viable to "maybe small business people because they see Steve... as someone who knows what it is like to run a business," Kahn said.

While other candidates declined naming how many delegates they could grab, Kahn elected to say, "I don't know if I'll shoot myself in the foot for this, but if we have 10 strong candidates, we'll be happy..."

"We're not as popular as other candidates, but we have a strong following. We're not looking to win on the first vote; we just want to get 15 percent and present as a viable candidate in the primary."

The 15 percent floor that the Democratic party established as a minimum percentage of delegates candidates must have in order to get their names on the ballot has become a major issue for the Reich campaign. By entering the race scarcely two weeks ago, Reich must lead a turbocharged effort to obtain delegate support at the statewide caucuses on Feb. 2.

But Nora Mann, Arlington Redevelopment Board member, who is leading Reich's local effort, said the support here is coming fast and furious.

"The support is remarkable," Mann said. "I'm seeing people who never have done much more than vote before who are excited about Reich's candidacy. The infectious enthusiasm is making up for lost time."

Mann said she is supporting the former Labor secretary because "I believe that he is an honorable, very thoughtful man who has a lot of terrific ideas."

As to who else will support him, Mann replied, "You're trying to get me to use the 'L' word, aren't you? He appeals to an incredibly broad spectrum; it's not just liberals and it's not just labor."

Some very specific people are in Tolman's camp, the ones who have supported the Clean Elections Law — despite its non-funding at the hands of the state Legislature. Tolman, along with Green Party candidate Jill Stein, are the only two declared candidates who have pledged to run as Clean Elections candidates. Tolman, however, has raised enough individual donations to qualify for matching campaign funds, if they were available.



Former Labor Secretary Robert Reich, a candidate for governor, speaks with resident Will Stein at Monday's Martin Luther King Jr. Birthday Observance. Reich is one of the candidates who local Democrats will discuss at the Feb. 2 caucus.

"(Tolman) will give some much needed respect to the governor's office," said Thielman, who runs a non-profit foundation that helps city youth and is a Town Meeting member. "I think there's a section of Arlington that's supportive of the Clean Elections Law."

It's an uphill battle for Tolman, Thielman acknowledged.

"We've got our work cut out for us. We're going up against deep ties to the institutional base in our town. We're the outsiders looking in and we're going to do our best and try as hard as we possibly can," he said.

The campaigns that are tapping a lot of the institutional base, most agree, are O'Brien's and Birmingham's. Selectman Jack Hurd is running Birmingham's local effort.

"For at least a year, there has been some organizational activity going on," Hurd said.

He likes Birmingham because of "his leadership skills around education and health care. I think what separates him from the rest of the field is his experience and it's a good Democratic field."

Hurd said Birmingham also appeals to a fairly-liberal body of voters, but does not think votes have slipped away from Birmingham's hands and into Reich's.

"I think there's been a number of people who have stepped up for Reich that have been undecided,"

he said.

Meanwhile, Deal said her personal attachment to O'Brien is rooted in both supporting another woman and respecting the work she has done in the job as Treasurer.

"She did not grandstand and got the job done and will bring that style to the governor's office," Deal said.

A Democratic Town Committee member who also works for O'Brien, Deal noted that Arlington's support for O'Brien is "strong," but finds appeal in the wide choices all Democrats have this year.

"I think the good news is that it energizes Democrats of all stripes," Deal said. "We've got a Democratic buffet and there's something for everybody."

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RELIGION

WORSHIP DIRECTORY

BAPTIST

First Baptist Church, 819 Mass. Ave., 781-643-3024, fax 646-4882. The Rev. Doctor Mikel Satcher, interim pastor. Sunday: worship at 10 a.m.; Fellowship period, 11 a.m.; Sunday School 11:20 a.m. Nursery care available.

Trinity Baptist, 115 Mass. Ave., 781-643-4771, (church office); e-mail: trinityar@hot-mail.com. Rev. Barbara Welch, interim pastor. Sunday worship at 10:30 a.m.; Sunday School at 11:10 a.m.; Coffee hour/Fellowship at 11:30 a.m. Nursery care available.

CONGREGATIONAL

Park Avenue Congregational (UCC), Park Ave. & Wollaston Ave., 781-643-8680. The Rev. Dr. William A. Albright, Pastor. Worship service at 10 a.m. Sunday, followed immediately by Fellowship and Refreshment hour. Small-child care available during worship service. Sunday school for children and teenagers. Adult education at various locations on weekday evenings and after Morning Worship on Sundays; phone church office for details. Tuesday 12:45 p.m.: Weekly Bible Study at the church (enter through the parish-hall door on Paul Revere Road; study is upstairs, in the fireplace room). Both the sanctuary, and the ground floor of the parish hall, are handicap accessible. Web site: <http://www.paccucc.org>.

Pleasant Street Congregational (UCC), 75 Pleasant St., 781-643-0553. Rev. Danny Roman-Gloro, minister; Dr. Bernadette Colley, Director of Music. Worship and church school 10 a.m. on Sundays followed immediately by Fellowship Hour. Adult education at 10 a.m. Wednesdays and 7:30 p.m. Thursdays. Infant and toddler care (5 and under) provided during worship and adult education meetings. Communion on first Sunday of each month. Choir rehearsal Sundays at 9 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. plus final Wednesday evening of each month. For more information: 781-643-0553 or www.PleasantStreetChurch.org

EPISCOPAL

St. Anne, Episcopal, Bethany Convent, Chapel: 18 Claremont Ave., 781-643-0921; Sunday Eucharist: 8 a.m.; Monday

Eucharist: 5:30 p.m.; Daily Eucharist: 7:30 a.m. or 8 a.m. (please call). The chapel is always available for your private visits.

St. John's Episcopal, 74 Pleasant St., 781-648-4819; handicapped-accessible. The Rev. Dr. Ronald E. Ramsey, rector. Jeanne Danton, Director of Christian Education. Worship service 8 a.m. HE Rite I and 10 a.m. HE Rite II. Contact church offices for times of special services.

Church of Our Saviour, 21 Marathon St., The Rev. Linda Fisher Privitera, Rector; 781-648-5962. Sunday, 8 a.m., Holy Eucharist Rite I; 10 a.m., Rite II with healing services on last Sunday of each month. Children's church school, nursery care and choir are available at 10 a.m. service. Youth and adult education classes ongoing. Church is on MBTA #77 bus line with stop being one block before Marathon St. in Ea. Arlington. Arlington Food Pantry is housed in basement of church. Inquiries can be directed to 646-1000, ext. 4513.

EVANGELICAL

Covenant Church, Park and Westminster Avenues, Arlington, 781-646-9027. Brian Emmet, pastor. Worship service Sunday 10 a.m. with Sunday School for children and adults from 9 to 9:45 a.m. Child care provided.

Countryside Bible Chapel, 480 Lowell Street, Lexington, Jed N. Snyder, Pastor. 781-862-7513 office; (781) 862-4483 fax; www.CountrysideBibleChapel.org. Sunday: 9 a.m., Communion; 10 a.m., Sunday School for all ages; 11 a.m., Praise and Preaching Service; Noon, refreshments; 6 p.m. Youth Meeting. Weekdays: Bible studies; Care/Prayer Groups. Fridays: 6:30 p.m., AWANA (children through sixth grade).

EVANGELICAL COVENANT

Trinity Covenant Church, 7 Clematis Road, Lexington. 781-861-0780. Rev. Christopher W. Haydon, pastor. Sunday worship, 10:45 a.m. preceded by Sunday School for all ages at 9:45 a.m. Nursery care provided. Web site: trinitycovenant.home.att.net.

FRIENDS

Quaker Group in Arlington, a group of Quakers who live in Arlington, members and attendees of Cambridge Friends Meet-

ing, are holding twice-monthly gatherings in their homes. For information contact Mary Gilbert at 781-646-3760.

GREEK ORTHODOX

St. Athanasius Greek Orthodox Church, 735 Mass Ave., 781-646-0705, Rev. Dr. Nicholas M. Kastanas, Presbyter. Sunday Divine Liturgy: 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Sunday Orthros Service 8:45 a.m. to 10 a.m. Sunday Catechetical Church School: 10 a.m.; Weekday Services Orthros 8 a.m.; Divine Liturgy 9 a.m. to 10 a.m.

LUTHERAN

St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church, 979 Concord Turnpike (end of Hillside Avenue) Arlington, 781-646-7773. Pastor: Rev. Ross Goodman; Associate Pastor: the Rev. Susan Henry; Vicar: Brian Bennett. Adult Forum and Godly Play for children: 9 a.m.; Worship Service: 8 a.m. and 10:15 a.m. Nursery care and children's church are available. Web site: www.stpaularlington.org.

PRESBYTERIAN

Clarendon Hill Presbyterian Church, 155 Powderhouse Blvd., Somerville, 781-625-4823. The Rev. Patricia Budd Kepler of Arlington, Pastor. John Adams, Director of Music. Worship at 10 a.m. Sunday. Education for all ages follows. Infant and toddler care during worship and educational program. Choir rehearsal at 9 a.m. Sunday. Communion is the first Sunday of every month.

ROMAN CATHOLIC

St. James Church, 22 Appleton St., 781-643-0636. Rev. Francis E. Daley. Mass schedule: Monday-Saturday, 9 a.m. in Rectory Chapel. Sunday vigil Saturday at 4 ; 7:30, 9:30, 11:30 a.m. Sacrament of Penance, Saturday 3 - 3:45.

Immaculate Conception, 45 Alewife Brook Parkway, Cambridge, 617-547-3455. Rev. Arthur F. Wright. Saturday Mass, 4 p.m.; Sunday Mass: 8:30, 10, 11:30 a.m., Daily Mass will be celebrated at 8 a.m., Monday through Saturday.

St. Agnes, 24 Medford St., 781-648-0220. Rev. Brian M. Flatley. Saturday Mass, 4, 5:15 p.m.; Sunday Mass: 7, 8, 9, 10:30 a.m., noon, 5 p.m.

St. Jerome, 210 Lake St., 781-648-2506. Rev. Joseph P. Fratic. Saturday Vigil Mass: 4 p.m.; Sunday Mass: 8 and 11:15 a.m. Daily Mass: 9 a.m., Monday through Saturday.

St. Camillus, 1175 Concord Turnpike, 781-643-3132. Rev. James E. O'Leary, Pastor. Saturday Mass, 4:30 p.m.; Sunday Mass: 9 and 11 a.m. Weekday Mass: 9 a.m. Confessions: 4 p.m. Saturday and seasonally.

St. Eulalia, 50 Ridge St., Winchester, 781-729-8220. Rev. Victor LaVoie. Regular liturgy schedule: Monday through Friday, 9 a.m.; Saturday, 4 p.m., Sunday, 8 a.m., 10 a.m. noon and 5 p.m. Holy Days 5:30 p.m. on vigil, 9 a.m. and 7 p.m. on the feast. Sacrament of Reconciliation Saturday 3 to 3:45 and by appointment.

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST

First Parish Unitarian Universalist, 630 Mass Ave., 781-648-3799. Revs. Barbara Whittaker-Johns and Kathy Huff. Congregation welcomes people of all ages, races, religious backgrounds and sexual orientations seeking a spiritual community committed to justice and compassion in human relations. Sunday service, nursery care and religious education for pre-K through high school, 10-11:15am. Coffee hour following service. Many programs offered during the week including adult and child choirs.

UNITED METHODIST

Calvary Church, United Methodist, 300 Mass. Ave., 781-646-8679. Rev. John Mueller. Worship, 10:30 a.m., nursery care available. Christian education for pre-school through adult, 9:30 a.m.. All welcome. <http://www.gbmg-umc.org/calvary-ch-um>.

LATTER-DAY SAINTS

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, Arlington Ward, 15 Ledgebrook Place, Belmont, 617-489-4125. Bishop Travis M. Waller. Sunday worship: Sacrament Meeting, 9 a.m. to 10:10 a.m.; Sunday School 10:20 a.m. to 11:05 a.m.; Priesthood, Relief Society, Young Men/Young Women 11:15 a.m. to noon; YM/YW Mutual and Boy Scouts Wednesday, 7:30 to 9 p.m.; Family History Center (Genealogy Library) Tues.-Thu. 7 to 9 p.m., Saturday, 9 a.m. to noon. All are welcome.

JEWISH

Temple Emunah, 9 Piper Road, Lexington, 02421, 781-861-0300, Rabbi Bernard Eisenman. Service times: Sunday 9 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.; Monday through Thursday 7 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.; Friday 7 a.m. and 6:15 p.m.; Saturday 9:30 a.m. and afternoon (varies). Visit our web page at www.TempleEmunah.org.

Temple Isaiah, 55 Lincoln Street, Lexington, Rabbi Daniel B. Gropper; Rabbi Howard L. Jaffee. 781-862-7160. Friday, Jan. 18, 6:15 p.m., Kabbalat Shabbat. Saturday, Jan. 19: 9 a.m. Shabbat service and Torah discussion in the chapel (Ex. 10:1-13:16) Bo; 11 a.m. Bat Mitzvah, Community Shabbat service.

Temple Shir Tikvah, 34 Vine St., Winchester, 781-729-1263, Rabbi Richard I. Meirowitz. All services held in temple building. Adult Shabbat services are held at 8 p.m. on three Fridays of each month. Family Shabbat services are at 7 p.m. on one Friday each month. Tot Shabbats held monthly Saturday mornings. More information is available on website www.shir-tikvah.org.

Temple Shalom, 475 Winthrop St., Medford, 781-396-3262, Rabbi Tamar Crystal. Hebrew school director, Julie Cohen. Temple Shalom is an egalitarian, traditional, conservative synagogue and welcomes families and individuals from all towns in the surrounding areas. Shabbat services: Friday evenings, 8 p.m.; Saturday mornings at 9:30 a.m. an Oneg Shabbat follows each service. Evening minyans held Saturday through Thursday at 7 p.m. Sunday morning minyans at 8:30 a.m. Rabbi's class Tuesday evenings, 7:30 p.m. except last Tuesday of the month. Call for additional information.

BAA'AI

Spiritual Assembly of the Baha'is of Arlington, Post Office Box 56, Arlington, MA 02476-0001, e-mail arlington.lsa@bostonbahai.org; web www.bostonbahai.org. Devotional gatherings and informational meetings are held regularly. Call 781-431-3943 for more information.

RELIGION NOTES

Women of the Bible

The Arlington Catholic Parishes of St. Agnes, St. Camillus, St. James and St. Jerome invite you to their Eighth Adult Religious Education Workshop entitled "Women of the Bible" to be held tonight, Thursday, Jan. 24 at 7:30 p.m. at Msgr. Linehan Library at Arlington Catholic High School, Medford Street, Arlington. Handicapped Accessible.

The guest speaker is Thomas Trevisani, a dynamic speaker and retired director of language arts, Arlington High School. Admission is free. Refreshments will be served. All are welcome to attend. If schools are closed for snow, the program will also be cancelled. Further information is available by calling Anne Doherty at 781-648-3344.

This is the eighth in a series of workshops on contemporary issues, sponsored by the Arlington Parish Cluster Group, which consists of clergy and lay leadership from all four Arlington parishes working in a collaborative planning process and sharing resources for improved programs in a number of focus areas.

Parenting workshops

Temple Isaiah in Lexington will offer a series of workshops designed for parents of children from newborn (or earlier) through the age of 4.

Organized by Rabbi Daniel Gropper, associate rabbi of the temple, the four workshops will be offered on four Sunday afternoons in February and March. The goals of the program are to create an environment for adults to discuss issues of parenting, for adult couples to learn tools for strengthening their relationships and for parents to learn how to incorporate Jewish rituals into their families.

The first of four sessions is "Discipline for a Lifetime," led by Margie Bogdanow, LICSW, Sunday, Feb. 10, 3 to 5 p.m.

The fee for the series is \$40 for members of Temple Isaiah and \$60 for non-members. Childcare is available and is included in the fee. All workshops will be held at Temple Isaiah, 55 Lincoln St., Lexington, telephone 781-862-7160. Please stop by the Temple office or call for a brochure and registration form or e-mail lweygint@templeisaiah.net for more information.

This year's program is funded in part by a grant from CJP's Synagogue Program Fund.

Temple Isaiah is a Reform Jewish congregation and a member of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, the national organization of the Reform movement.

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